

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WSMITH

APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB

NEA:SSOBER

IO - MR. BAKER

EUR/RPE - MR. LAMB

S/S: MR. MACFARLANE

S:MR. COLLUMS

OES:JDEVINE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 198126 TOSEC 200275

EXDIS-FOR SECRETARY FROM NEA THRU HABIB-ALSO PASS ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, US, IAEA

SLBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: OBSERVER STATUS FOR PLO AT
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (S/S NO. 7617112)

1. YOU WILL RECALL THAT AMBASSADOR DINITZ LEFT A PAPER
WITH YOU AT YOUR JULY 31 MEETING URGING THAT THE U.S.
STRONGLY OPPOSE THE ADMISSION OF THE PLO AS AN OFFICIAL
OBSERVER TO THE IAEA. ON JUNE 16 IRAQ, AS A MEMBER OF
THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, EXERCISED ITS RIGHT TO HAVE
A PROPOSAL FOR SUCH PLO ADMISSION INSCRIBED ON THE AGENDA
FOR THE MID-SEPTEMBER SESSION OF THE IAEA GENERAL CONFER-
ENCE. WE BELIEVE THE U.S. SHOULD GO ON RECORD IN
OPPOSITION TO PLO ADMISSION BECAUSE THERE IS A CLEAR CASE
TO BE MADE AGAINST IT AND BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND
ISRAELI SENSITIVITIES. WE SHOULD URGE OTHERS ALSO TO
EXPRESS OPPOSITION ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT HAVE THE VOTES TO

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DEFEAT THE PLO BID.

2. AWARE OF THE CURRENT NETHERLANDS PRESIDENCY OF THE EC-9 PLUS THE FACT THAT YOUR SCHEDULE INCLUDES A STOP AT THE HAGUE, THE ISRAELI EMBASSY SUGGESTED TODAY THAT YOU MIGHT PUT IN A WORD WITH THE DUTCH ON THE PLO/IAEA ISSUE. WE FEEL THIS WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF THE OPPORTUNITY ARISES WHILE YOU ARE IN THE HAGUE. OUR IAEA MISSION IN VIENNA

HAS DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM WITH THE NETHERLANDS MISSION. THE DUTCH MISSION SHARED OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF POLITICIZING THE IAEA BY SUCH MOVES AS A PLO INVITATION BUT FORESAW THAT ITS DELEGATION'S INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE TO ABSTAIN, AS WOULD THE INSTRUCTIONS FROM VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER EC-9 CAPITALS, BECAUSE OF THE STRONG EC-9 DESIRE FOR UNANIMITY AND THE CONSEQUENT ABILITY OF THE FRENCH TO SOFTEN THE EC-9 POSTURE CONCERNING THE PLO.

3. WE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

-- WE TRUST THAT OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS IN THE EC-9 WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE NOTION OF GRANTING OBSERVER STATUS TO THE PLO IN THE IAEA GOES BEYOND THE ISSUE OF THE POLITICIZATION OF STILL ANOTHER TECHNICAL INTERNATIONAL AGENCY, IN LIGHT OF THE PLO'S ESPOUSAL OF TERRORISM AS AN INSTRUMENT OF POLICY.

-- WE BELIEVE IT IS OBVIOUS TO ALL CONCERNED THAT THE QUESTION OF INVITING THE PLO IS SOLELY POLITICAL IN NATURE, SINCE THE PLO HAS NO GROUNDS FOR AN INTEREST IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY NOR ANY REASON FOR SEEKING ASSOCIATION WITH THE IAEA OTHER THAN TO ENHANCE ITS OWN POLITICAL STATUS.

-- THE U.S. FEELS IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE WEST TO EXPRESS FIRM OPPOSITION TO PLO ADMISSION. WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT ANY DEBASEMENT OF IAEA OBSERVER STATUS WILL NOT BE IGNORED BY THE PARLIAMENTS OF MEMBER STATES, WHICH FOR MANY YEARS HAVE RELIED ON THE AGENCY'S CREDIBILITY--PARTICULARLY IN THE SAFEGUARDS FIELD--AS A
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TECHNICAL AND NOT A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU TAKE UP WITH THE DUTCH IN THEIR EC-9 PRESIDENCY CAPACITY, IF THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF DURING YOUR STOPOVER IN THE HAGUE, OUR DESIRE TO COORDINATE WITH THE EC-9 IN OPPOSING PLO ADMISSION TO OBSERVER STATUS AT THE

IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER.

APPROVE.....DISAPPROVE.....

5. DRAFTED:NEA/IAI:WBSMITH APPROVED:P:PCHABIB
CLEARED:EUR/RPE:DLAMB IO:BATAR

ROBINSON

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NNN

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